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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 19  
**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008**

INTRODUCED BY  
Joni Marie Gutierrez

A JOINT MEMORIAL  
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT TO IDENTIFY AN  
APPROPRIATE AND SIGNIFICANT FUNDING MECHANISM TO SUPPORT  
COMMUNITY EFFORTS TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GASES THROUGH RECYCLING;  
REQUESTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO CREATE  
SUPPORT STRATEGIES AND INCENTIVES FOR BUSINESSES THAT PROCESS  
RECYCLABLES AND THAT MANUFACTURE RECYCLED-CONTENT PRODUCTS.

WHEREAS, recycling conserves energy, reduces water usage,  
preserves our natural resources and conserves valuable landfill  
space; and

WHEREAS, recycling is an economically valuable activity  
that generates jobs and prevents the wasting of millions of  
dollars of resources deposited in landfills; and

WHEREAS, recycling activities significantly reduce  
greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming; and

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1           WHEREAS, New Mexico's recycling rate, as reported by the  
2 department of environment, is only nine and seven-tenths  
3 percent when compared to the national average of thirty-two  
4 percent; and

5           WHEREAS, a statewide educational campaign is essential to  
6 change habits regarding reducing, reusing and recycling; and

7           WHEREAS, incentives for businesses to process and consume  
8 recyclables are needed to increase recycling; and

9           WHEREAS, significant state grants to local communities for  
10 the development of recycling infrastructure and education are  
11 needed;

12           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the department of environment be  
14 requested to work with the New Mexico recycling coalition to  
15 develop legislation that will establish significant funding to  
16 support community infrastructure to reduce, reuse and recycle  
17 resources in New Mexico's solid waste stream and to provide  
18 educational grants to spread information to encourage  
19 reduction, reuse and recycling of resources commonly considered  
20 solid waste; and

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of environment  
22 be requested to develop strategies to expand the department's  
23 recycling technical assistance program and to launch an  
24 effective, long-term statewide education campaign; and

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the economic development

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1 department be requested to work with the New Mexico recycling  
2 coalition, the department of taxation and revenue and the  
3 office of the governor to develop tax incentive legislation and  
4 program strategies to gain more recycling processors and  
5 recycled-content manufacturers in the state; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of environment  
7 and the economic development department report to an  
8 appropriate interim legislative committee on the departments'  
9 strategies to increase recycling, reuse and reduction of  
10 resources unnecessarily deposited in landfills in New Mexico;  
11 and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
13 transmitted to the secretary of environment, the secretary of  
14 economic development and the New Mexico recycling coalition.